

Agency 5

**Kansas Department of Agriculture—
Division of Water Resources**

Articles

- 5-1. DEFINITIONS.
- 5-3. APPROPRIATION RIGHTS.
- 5-4. DISTRIBUTION OF WATER BETWEEN USERS.
- 5-7. ABANDONMENT AND TERMINATION.
- 5-14. ENFORCEMENT AND APPEALS.
- 5-16. FLEX ACCOUNT.
- 5-17. WATER BANKING.
- 5-20. INTENSIVE GROUNDWATER USE CONTROL AREA.
- 5-21. WESTERN KANSAS GROUNDWATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICT NO. 1.
- 5-22. EQUUS BEDS GROUNDWATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICT NO. 2.
- 5-25. BIG BEND GROUNDWATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICT NO. 5.

Article 1.—DEFINITIONS

5-1-4. Water flowmeter specifications.

(a) Each water flowmeter required by the chief engineer, or required pursuant to a regulation adopted by the chief engineer, on or after the effective date of this regulation shall meet the following minimum requirements:

(1)(A) The water flowmeter has been certified by the manufacturer to register neither less than 98 percent nor more than 102 percent of the actual volume of water passing the water flowmeter when installed according to the manufacturer's instructions. This requirement shall be met throughout the water flowmeter's normal operating range without further adjustment or calibration.

(B) The manufacturer has certified to the chief engineer that it has an effective quality assurance program, including wet testing a random sample of production line water flowmeters with water flowmeter test equipment. The minimum number of samples to be tested shall be determined using a confidence interval of 90 percent, an expected compliance of 95 percent, and an acceptable error of two percent. The minimum number of samples of each model that shall be tested shall be calculated by multiplying 1,300 times the annual production of that model of water flowmeter divided

by Q. Q equals four times the annual production of that water flowmeter plus 1,300.

(C) The manufacturer has certified that the water flowmeter test equipment described in paragraph (a)(1)(B) has been tested annually and found accurate by standards traceable to the national institute of standards and technology (NIST). Documentation of the testing required in paragraphs (a)(1)(A) and (B) shall be maintained by the manufacturer for a period of at least five years and shall be made available to the chief engineer upon request during normal business hours.

(2) The water flowmeter shall be designed and constructed so that it will meet the following criteria:

(A) Maintain the accuracy required by the chief engineer in paragraph (a)(1)(A) through (C) and K.A.R. 5-1-9(a)(1);

(B) be protected by the following:

(i) A seal installed by the manufacturer or an authorized representative of the manufacturer; or

(ii) a way that makes it impossible to alter the totalizer reading without breaking the seal or obtaining the authorization of the manufacturer, an authorized representative of the manufacturer, or the chief engineer;

(C) clearly indicate the direction of water flow;

(D) clearly indicate the serial number of the water flowmeter;

(E) have a weatherproof register that is sealed from all water sources;

(F) have a register that is readable at all times, whether the system is operating or not;

(G) be able to be sealed by an authorized representative of the chief engineer to prevent unauthorized manipulation of, tampering with, or removal of the water flowmeter;

(H) be equipped with a manufacturer-approved measuring chamber through which all water flows. Except for positive displacement water flowmeters, full-bore electromagnetic water flowmeters, and multijet water flowmeters, flow-straightening vanes shall be installed at the upstream throat of the water flowmeter chamber. The flow-straightening vanes shall meet either of the following criteria:

(i) Be designed and installed by the manufacturer, or an authorized representative of the manufacturer; or

(ii) consist of at least three vanes that are longer, when placed parallel to the length of the pipe, than the inside diameter of the pipe, are equally spaced radially on the inner periphery of the pipe, and are wider in diametrical distance than one-fourth of the inside diameter of the pipe;

(I) be equipped with an inspection port if the straightening vanes are not designed, constructed, and installed by the manufacturer or an authorized representative of the manufacturer. The port shall be of sufficient size and placement to allow determination of the following:

(i) The proper installation of the flow-straightening vanes; and

(ii) the inside diameter of the pipe in which the water flowmeter sensor is installed;

(J) remain operable without need for recalibration to maintain accuracy throughout the operating life of the water flowmeter; and

(K) have a totalizer that meets the following criteria:

(i) Is continuously updated to read directly only in acre-feet, acre-inches, or gallons;

(ii) has sufficient capacity, without cycling past zero more than once each year, to record the quantity of water diverted in any one calendar year;

(iii) reads in units small enough to discriminate the annual water use to within the nearest 0.1 percent of the total annual permitted quantity of water;

(iv) has a dial or counter that can be timed with a stopwatch over not more than a 10-minute pe-

riod to accurately determine the rate of flow under normal operating conditions; and

(v) has a nonvolatile memory.

(3) Each water flowmeter that is required to be installed by the chief engineer, or that was required to be installed as a condition of either an approval of application or an order of the chief engineer, or pursuant to a regulation adopted by the chief engineer before the effective date of this regulation, shall meet the following minimum specifications:

(A) Each water flowmeter shall be of the proper size, pressure rating, and style, and shall have a normal operating range sufficient to accurately measure the water flow passing the water flowmeter under normal operating conditions.

(B) Each water flowmeter shall meet the accuracy requirements of K.A.R. 5-1-9(a)(1). If the water flowmeter does not meet the accuracy requirements of K.A.R. 5-1-9(a)(1), then the water flowmeter shall meet either of the following criteria:

(i) Be repaired so that it meets the accuracy requirements of K.A.R. 5-1-9(a)(1); or

(ii) be replaced with a water flowmeter meeting all of the requirements of K.A.R. 5-1-4 and installed in a manner that meets the requirements of K.A.R. 5-1-6.

(b) A water flowmeter installed in the diversion works or a distribution system for a water right authorized for municipal use shall not be subject to the requirements of paragraph (a)(2)(B) if an accurate record of water use can be determined by readings from at least one alternate water flowmeter in the same diversion works or distribution system. (Authorized by K.S.A. 82a-706a; implementing K.S.A. 82a-706a and K.S.A. 82a-706c; effective Sept. 22, 2000; amended Oct. 24, 2003; amended May 21, 2010.)

5-1-9. Criteria to determine when a water flowmeter is out of compliance. (a) A water flowmeter shall be considered to be out of compliance if any of the following criteria is met:

(1) The water flowmeter registers less than 94 percent or more than 106 percent of the actual volume of water passing the water flowmeter. If necessary, this determination may be made by a field test conducted by, or approved by, the chief engineer.

(2) The seal placed on the totalizer by the manufacturer or the manufacturer's authorized representative has been broken, or the totalizer value

has been reset or altered without the authorization of the manufacturer, an authorized representative of the manufacturer, or the chief engineer.

(3) A seal placed on the water flowmeter or totalizer by the chief engineer has been broken.

(4) The water flowmeter register is not visible or is unreadable for any reason.

(5) There is not full pipe flow through the water flowmeter.

(6) Flow-straightening vanes have not been properly designed, manufactured, and installed.

(7) The water flowmeter is not calibrated for the nominal size of the pipe in which the flowmeter is installed.

(8) The water flowmeter is not installed in accordance with the manufacturer's installation specifications. However, five diameters of straight pipe above the water flowmeter sensor and two diameters below the water flowmeter sensor shall be the minimum spacing, regardless of the manufacturer's installation specifications.

(9) A water flowmeter is installed at a location at which the flowmeter does not measure all of the water diverted from the source of supply.

(b) A water flowmeter installed in the diversion works or a distribution system for a water right authorized for municipal use shall not be subject to the requirements of paragraphs (a)(2) and (3) if an accurate record of water use can be determined by readings from at least one alternate water flowmeter in the same diversion works or distribution system. (Authorized by K.S.A. 82a-706a; implementing K.S.A. 82a-706a and K.S.A. 82a-706c; effective Sept. 22, 2000; amended Oct. 24, 2003; amended May 21, 2010.)

Article 3.—APPROPRIATION RIGHTS

5-3-4a. Hearing before issuance of an order. (a) A hearing may be held pursuant to K.A.R. 5-14-3a by the chief engineer, or a person designated by the chief engineer, before the chief engineer issues an order if one of the following conditions is met:

(1) The chief engineer finds it to be in the public interest to hold a hearing.

(2) A hearing has been requested by a person who shows to the satisfaction of the chief engineer that approval of the application could cause impairment of senior water rights or permits.

(3) The chief engineer desires public input on the matter.

(b) The hearing shall be electronically recorded by the chief engineer.

(c) If all of the parties agree, an informal conference instead of a hearing may be held by the chief engineer pursuant to K.A.R. 5-14-3a. (Authorized by K.S.A. 82a-706a; implementing K.S.A. 82a-706a, K.S.A. 2008 Supp. 82a-708b, 82a-711, and 82a-737; effective May 1, 1980; amended May 31, 1994; amended March 20, 2009.)

5-3-23. Maximum reasonable annual quantity approvable for irrigation use for an application for change in place of use and a request to reduce a water right; exceptions.

(a) Except as provided in subsections (c), (d), and (e), for water rights with a priority date before September 22, 2000, the maximum reasonable annual quantity of water that may be approved for either of the following shall be that quantity of water reasonably necessary to irrigate crops in the region of the state where the proposed place of use is located as specified in K.A.R. 5-3-19(a):

(1) An application for change in place of use for irrigation filed pursuant to K.S.A. 82a-708b and amendments thereto; or

(2) a request to reduce the authorized place of use for irrigation for a water right filed pursuant to K.A.R. 5-7-5.

(b) Except as provided in subsections (c), (d), and (e), for water rights with a priority date on or after September 22, 2000, the maximum reasonable annual quantity of water that may be approved for either of the following shall be that quantity of water reasonably necessary to irrigate crops in the region of the state where the proposed place of use is located as specified in K.A.R. 5-3-19(b):

(1) An application for change in place of use for irrigation filed pursuant to K.S.A. 82a-708b and amendments thereto; or

(2) a request to reduce the authorized place of use for a water right filed pursuant to K.A.R. 5-7-5.

(c) The maximum reasonable quantities approvable in subsections (a) and (b) shall not exceed either of the following:

(1) The applicable quantity specified in either subsection (a) or (b); or

(2) the maximum quantity of acre-feet per acre authorized by the vested water right or certificate of appropriation, whichever is greater. The maximum authorized quantity of acre-feet per acre shall be calculated by dividing the maximum an-

nual quantity of water authorized when the application for change or request to reduce is filed by the number of acres authorized when the application for change is filed.

(d) The quantities specified in subsections (a), (b), and (c) may be exceeded only if the applicant demonstrates to the chief engineer that the requested quantity is reasonable for the intended irrigation use, is not wasteful, and will not otherwise prejudicially and unreasonably affect the public interest and if either of the following conditions is met:

(1) Because of specialty crops or other unusual conditions, the quantity specified in K.A.R. 5-3-19(a) is insufficient.

(2) A request for reduction of the authorized place of use is made for a water right located in both the Rattlesnake Creek Subbasin and the Big Bend Groundwater Management District Number Five to comply with the agriculture water enhancement program and both of the following conditions are met:

(A) The reduction of the authorized place of use will lead to an overall reduction in water use.

(B) The reduction of the authorized place of use pursuant to paragraph (d)(2) requires the approval of any future reduction or change to a water right so reduced to meet the requirements in subsections (a), (b), (c), and (e) of this regulation and in K.A.R. 5-5-11.

(e) The maximum annual quantity of water approved pursuant to this regulation shall not exceed the maximum annual quantity of water authorized by the water right when the change application is approved. (Authorized by K.S.A. 82a-706a; implementing K.S.A. 2009 Supp. 82a-707(e) and K.S.A. 2009 Supp. 82a-708b; effective Sept. 22, 2000; amended, T-5-8-16-10, Aug. 16, 2010; amended Nov. 19, 2010.)

Article 4.—DISTRIBUTION OF WATER BETWEEN USERS

5-4-1. Distribution of water between users when a prior right is being impaired. In responding to a complaint that a prior water right is being impaired, the following procedure shall be followed:

(a) Complaint. The complaint shall be submitted in writing to the chief engineer or that person's authorized representative. The chief engineer shall take no action until the written complaint is submitted and, for non-domestic

groundwater rights, the information specified in paragraph (b)(2) is provided.

(b) Investigation. The chief engineer shall investigate the physical conditions involved, according to the water rights involved in the complaint.

(1) If the water right is domestic, the chief engineer may require the complainant to provide a written report similar to that described in paragraph (b)(2).

(2) If the water right claimed to be impaired is not a domestic right and its source of water is groundwater, the complainant shall provide to the chief engineer a written report completed within 180 days preceding the date of the complaint. Within 30 days of the complainant's request, the chief engineer shall provide the complainant with data from the division of water resources that is relevant to preparation of the required report. The complainant's report shall meet the following requirements:

(A) Be prepared by a licensed well driller, a professional engineer, or a licensed geologist;

(B) describe the construction and the components of the well;

(C) provide data to show the extent to which the well has fully penetrated the productive portions of the aquifer with water of acceptable quality for the authorized use; and

(D) provide testing and inspection data to show the extent to which the pump and power unit are in good working condition to make full use of the available aquifer.

(3) In assessing the complainant's written report, the chief engineer may use all relevant data, including historical data from water well completion records, Kansas geological survey bulletins, and other data in the water right files.

(4) If the area of complaint is located within the boundaries of a groundwater management district (GMD), the chief engineer shall notify the GMD of the complaint before initiating the investigation and shall give the board of directors of the GMD the opportunity to assist with the investigation.

(5) If the source of water is groundwater, the chief engineer may require hydrologic testing to determine hydrological characteristics as part of the investigation. The chief engineer shall provide notice to water right owners in a geographic area sufficient to conduct the hydrologic testing and to determine who could be affected by the actions made necessary by the results of the investigation. These water right owners shall be known as the potentially affected parties. As part of the inves-

tigation, the chief engineer may require access to points of diversion or observation wells and may require the installation of observation wells.

(6) Data acquired during the investigation shall be provided to the complainant and any other persons notified for review and comment at their request as the investigation proceeds.

(c) Report. The chief engineer shall issue a report stating the relevant findings of the investigation.

(1) If the complainant's water right is a domestic water right or has surface water as its source and the complainant claims impairment by the diversion of water pursuant to surface rights, the chief engineer shall provide a copy of the report to the complainant and to the potentially affected parties. This report shall constitute the final report of the investigation.

(2) If the complainant's water right is not a domestic right and has groundwater as its source or if the complainant's water right has surface water as its source and claims impairment by the diversion of water pursuant to groundwater rights, a copy of the report shall be provided by the division of water resources to the complainant and to the potentially affected parties. The report shall be posted by the division of water resources on the department of agriculture's web site. This report shall constitute the initial report of the investigation.

(A) If the initial report shows impairment, the potentially affected parties shall have the opportunity to submit written comments on the initial report within 30 days of its posting on the department's web site or a longer period if granted by the chief engineer. The chief engineer shall consider the written comments of the potentially affected parties.

(B) If the area of complaint is located within the boundaries of a GMD, the chief engineer shall provide a copy of the initial report to the GMD and shall consider any written comments submitted by the GMD board within 30 days of the posting of the initial report on the department's web site or a longer period if granted by the chief engineer.

(C) Nothing in this regulation shall prevent the chief engineer from regulating water uses that the chief engineer has determined are directly impairing senior water rights during the comment period or, if applicable, before obtaining written comments by the GMD board during the comment period.

(3) After reviewing comments on the initial report from potentially affected parties and, if applicable, from the GMD board, the chief engineer shall issue a final report, which shall be provided to the complainant, the potentially affected parties, and the GMD board if applicable and shall be posted on the department of agriculture's web site.

(4) The chief engineer may require conservation plans authorized by K.S.A. 82a-733, and amendments thereto, based on the initial and final reports.

(5) If the chief engineer's final report determines impairment and the source of water is a regional aquifer, the final report shall determine whether the impairment is substantially caused by a regional overall lowering of the water table. If the impairment is determined to be substantially caused by a regional overall lowering of the water table, no further action shall be taken under this regulation, and the procedure specified in K.A.R. 5-4-1a shall be followed.

(d) Request to secure water. If the complainant desires the chief engineer to regulate water rights that the final report has found to be impairing the complainant's water right, the complainant shall submit a written request to secure water to satisfy the complainant's prior right. The request to secure water shall be submitted on a prescribed form furnished by the division of water resources. The complainant shall specify the minimum reasonable rate needed to satisfy the water right and shall also provide information substantiating that need. The chief engineer shall determine how to regulate the impairing rights. Each request to secure water to satisfy irrigation-use water rights shall expire at the end of the calendar year in which the request was submitted.

(e) Notice of order.

(1) The chief engineer shall give a written notice and directive to those water right holders whose use of water must be curtailed to secure water to satisfy the complainant's prior rights.

(2) If the area of complaint is located within the boundaries of a GMD and if the final report determines that the impairment is substantially due to direct interference, the chief engineer shall allow the GMD board to recommend how to regulate the impairing water rights to satisfy the impaired right.

(3) The chief engineer may consider regulating the impairing rights the next year and rotating water use among rights.

(4) All water delivered to the user's point of diversion for that individual's use at the specified rate or less shall be applied to the authorized beneficial use and shall count against the quantity of water specified unless the user notifies the chief engineer or authorized representative that diversion and use will be discontinued for a period of time for good reason.

(5) When the quantity of water needed has been delivered to the user's point of diversion or when the user discontinues that individual's use of water, those persons who have been directed to regulate their use shall be notified that they may resume the diversion and use of water.

(6) If the available water supply in the source increases, the chief engineer may allow some or all of the regulated users to resume use, depending on the supply. (Authorized by and implementing K.S.A. 82a-706a; modified, L. 1978, ch. 460, May 1, 1978; amended Oct. 29, 2010.)

5-4-1a. Distribution of water between users when a prior right is being impaired due to a regional lowering of the water table.

(a) When a complaint is received that a prior right to the use of water is being impaired, the procedure specified in K.A.R. 5-4-1 shall be followed until the determination is made that the impairment is caused substantially by a regional lowering of the water table.

(b)(1) If the area of complaint is located within the boundaries of a groundwater management district (GMD), the GMD board shall recommend the steps necessary to satisfy senior water rights. Recommendations may include following the GMD management program, amending the GMD management program, or pursuing any other means to satisfy senior water rights. The GMD board shall submit its recommendations to the chief engineer within six months of the determination that the impairment is caused substantially by a regional lowering of the water table or within a longer time if approved by the chief engineer.

(2) The GMD board shall publish notice of its recommendations once in a newspaper of general circulation in the county where the impairment is occurring.

(3) The chief engineer shall determine the appropriate course of action to satisfy senior water rights. To that end, the chief engineer shall consider the GMD's timely recommendations and

may conduct a study similar to that described in paragraph (c)(1).

(4) The chief engineer shall publish notice of the course of action once in a newspaper of general circulation in the county where the impairment is occurring.

(c)(1) If the area of complaint is located outside the boundaries of a GMD and determined to be caused by a regional lowering of the water table, the chief engineer shall conduct a study to determine the appropriate course of action. The study shall include a determination of the effectiveness and economic impact of administering one or more water rights in accordance with K.A.R. 5-4-1, the effectiveness and economic impact of the types of corrective controls listed under K.S.A. 82a-1038 and amendments thereto, and any other means to satisfy senior water rights while preserving the economic vitality of the region.

(2) The chief engineer shall determine the appropriate course of action, based on the study described in paragraph (c)(1).

(3) The chief engineer shall publish notice of the course of action once in a newspaper of general circulation in the county where the impairment is occurring. (Authorized by and implementing K.S.A. 82a-706a; effective Oct. 29, 2010.)

Article 7.—ABANDONMENT AND TERMINATION

5-7-1. Due and sufficient cause for non-use. (a) Each of the following circumstances shall be considered "due and sufficient cause," as used in K.S.A. 82a-718, and amendments thereto:

(1) Adequate moisture from natural precipitation exists for the production of grain, forage, or specialty crops, as determined by the moisture requirements of the specific crop.

(2) A right has been established or is in the process of being perfected for use of water from one or more preferred sources in which a supply is available currently but is likely to be depleted during periods of drought.

(3) Water is not available from the source of water supply for the authorized use at times needed.

(4) Water use is temporarily discontinued by the owner for a definite period of time to permit soil, moisture, and water conservation, as documented by any of the following:

(A) Furnishing to the chief engineer a copy of a contract showing that land that has been lawfully

irrigated with a water right that has not been abandoned is enrolled in a multiyear federal or state conservation program that has been approved by the chief engineer;

(B) enrolling the water right in the water right conservation program in accordance with K.A.R. 5-7-4; or

(C) any other method acceptable to the chief engineer that can be adequately documented by the owner before the nonuse takes place.

(5) Management and conservation practices are being applied that require the use of less water than authorized. If a conservation plan has been required by the chief engineer, the management and conservation practices used shall be consistent with the conservation plan approved by the chief engineer to qualify under this subsection.

(6) The chief engineer has previously approved the placement of the point of diversion in a standby status in accordance with K.A.R. 5-1-2.

(7) Physical problems exist with the point of diversion, distribution system, place of use, or the operator. This circumstance shall constitute due and sufficient cause only for a period of time reasonable to correct the problem.

(8) Conditions exist beyond the control of the owner that prevent access to the authorized place of use or point of diversion, as long as the owner is taking reasonable affirmative action to gain access.

(9) An alternate source of water supply was not needed and was not used because the primary source of supply was adequate to supply the needs of the water right owner.

(10) The chief engineer determines that a manifest injustice would result if the water right were deemed abandoned under the circumstances of the case.

(11) The water right is located in an area of the state that is closed to new appropriations of water by regulation or order of the chief engineer but is not closed by a safe-yield analysis.

(b) In addition to circumstances considered due and sufficient cause pursuant to subsection (a), both of the following requirements shall also be met to constitute due and sufficient cause for nonuse of water:

(1) The reason purporting to constitute due and sufficient cause shall have in fact prevented, or made unnecessary, the authorized beneficial use of water.

(2) Except for the temporarily discontinued use of water as provided by paragraph (a)(4) and for

physical problems with the point of diversion or distribution system as provided by paragraph (a)(7), the owner shall maintain the diversion works in a functional condition.

(c) Each year of nonuse for which the chief engineer finds that due and sufficient cause exists shall be considered to interrupt the successive years of nonuse for which due and sufficient cause does not exist.

(d) When a verified report of the chief engineer, or the chief engineer's authorized representative, is made a matter of record at a hearing held pursuant to K.S.A. 82a-718, and amendments thereto, that establishes nonuse of a water right for five or more successive years, the water right owner shall have the burden of showing that there have not been five or more successive years of nonuse without due and sufficient cause. (Authorized by K.S.A. 82a-706a; implementing K.S.A. 82a-706a and K.S.A. 2009 Supp. 82a-718; modified, L. 1978, ch. 460, May 1, 1978; amended May 1, 1986; amended May 31, 1994; amended Oct. 24, 2003; amended May 21, 2010.)

5-7-4. Water rights conservation program.

(a) Applications for enrollment in the water rights conservation program (WRCP) shall not be accepted after December 31, 2009. Applications received on or before December 31, 2009, shall be considered for enrollment in the program. Enrollment in the WRCP approved by the chief engineer and continued compliance with the WRCP shall constitute due and sufficient cause for nonuse pursuant to K.S.A. 82a-718, and amendments thereto, and K.A.R. 5-7-1.

(b) In order to qualify for enrollment in the WRCP, all of the following requirements and conditions shall be met:

(1) The point of diversion shall be located in either of the following locations:

(A) In an area that is closed to new appropriations of water, except for temporary permits, term permits, and domestic use; or

(B) in some other area designated by the chief engineer as an area where it would be in the public interest to allow water rights to be placed in the WRCP. In areas within the boundaries of a groundwater management district, the recommendations of the board of the district shall be taken into consideration by the chief engineer.

(2) Each of the owners of the water right shall agree to totally suspend all water use authorized by that water right for the duration of the contract.

(3) The owner or owners of the water right shall sign a contract with the chief engineer, or the chief engineer's authorized representative, before placing the water right into the WRCP. The contract shall be binding on all successors in interest to the water right owner.

(4) Only an entire water right may be placed into the WRCP. If a portion of a water right has been abandoned, the portion that is still in good standing may be enrolled in the WRCP. If a water right is administratively divided by the chief engineer, each portion of a formally divided water right shall be considered to be an entire water right for the purpose of this regulation.

(A) If at least five successive years of nonuse have occurred before application for enrollment in the WRCP, a determination of whether or not that water right is subject to abandonment before entry into the program, including an analysis of any reasons given that might constitute due and sufficient cause for nonuse, shall be made by the chief engineer.

(B) If, after review of the information, it appears that the right has been abandoned, the statutory procedures, including the right to a hearing, shall be followed to determine whether or not the right has been abandoned.

(5) Only the portion of a water right in good standing at the time of application for enrollment may be entered into the WRCP.

(c) Other requirements of enrollment in the WRCP program shall include the following:

(1) Water rights shall be placed into the WRCP for a definite period of calendar years of no fewer than five and no more than 10. Each WRCP contract shall terminate upon expiration of the time period specified in the contract.

(2) The water right owner or operator shall not be required to maintain the diversion works or delivery system during the period of the WRCP contract. If the pump is removed from a well, the well shall be properly capped or sealed during the contract. These requirements shall be in addition to those made by the Kansas department of health and environment pursuant to the groundwater exploration and protection act, K.S.A. 82a-1201 et seq., and amendments thereto.

(3) A certificate determining the extent to which a water right has been perfected shall be issued by the chief engineer before entering the water right into the WRCP if all of the following conditions are met:

(A) An applicant has a permit to appropriate

water for beneficial use and has perfected all, or any portion, of the water right authorized by the permit.

(B) The time in which to perfect the water right has expired, including any authorized extensions of time.

(C) A field inspection has been completed.

(4) If the time to perfect the water right, or any authorized extension of that right, has not expired, enrollment in the WRCP shall be considered as suspending the time to perfect. Upon expiration of the WRCP contract pertaining to this water right, the time to perfect shall again commence, and the applicant shall be required to perfect the water right within the remainder of the time allowed to perfect, or any authorized extension of that time.

(5) Each year after authorized enrollment in the WRCP, the water use correspondent shall indicate on the water use report that no water was used because the water right was enrolled in the WRCP.

(6) If the owner breaches, or causes or allows a breach of, the WRCP contract with the chief engineer, each year of nonuse between the effective date of the contract and the date of the breach shall be counted as years of nonuse without due and sufficient cause for the purpose of determining whether or not the water right has been abandoned pursuant to K.S.A. 82a-718, and amendments thereto. Before this penalty is imposed, the owner shall be given an opportunity to show either of the following:

(A) A breach of contract did not occur.

(B) A breach occurred, but either was minor or has been cured, and should not constitute grounds for imposing the penalty. (Authorized by K.S.A. 82a-706a; implementing K.S.A. 82a-706, K.S.A. 82a-713, K.S.A. 2008 Supp. 82a-714, as amended by L. 2009, Ch. 51, § 4, and K.S.A. 2008 Supp. 82a-718; effective July 1, 1994; amended Sept. 22, 2000; amended Dec. 28, 2009.)

Article 14.—ENFORCEMENT AND APPEALS

5-14-3. Orders. (a) An order subject to review pursuant to K.S.A. 82a-1901, and amendments thereto, shall be issued by the chief engineer in each of the following matters:

(1) The approval or dismissal of an application to change the place of use, the point of diversion, the use made of water, or any combination of

these, filed pursuant to K.S.A. 82a-708b and amendments thereto;

(2) the approval or dismissal of an application to appropriate water for beneficial use filed pursuant to K.S.A. 82a-711 and amendments thereto;

(3) the declaration of abandonment and termination of a water right pursuant to K.S.A. 82a-718 and amendments thereto; and

(4) the suspension of the use of water under a term permit, an approved application for a permit to appropriate water for beneficial use, an appropriation right, or a vested right, pursuant to K.S.A. 82a-770 and amendments thereto.

(b) Each order that is issued pursuant to K.S.A. 82a-737, and amendments thereto, and is subject to review pursuant to K.S.A. 82a-1901, and amendments thereto, shall be issued by the chief engineer, or the chief engineer's designee, in the assessment of civil penalty, the modification of a person's water right or permit to use water, the suspension of a person's water right or permit to use water, or any combination of these.

(c) Unless limited or prohibited by statute, any person to whom the order is directed or who has a property interest that could be adversely affected by the action or proposed action may request a review pursuant to K.S.A. 82a-1901, and amendments thereto, without filing a request for a hearing before the chief engineer.

(d) The chief engineer shall not be required to hold a hearing before issuing an order unless required by statute.

(e)(1) Any person to whom an order will be directed may request a hearing before the chief engineer before the issuance of an order by the chief engineer. The person shall then be notified by the chief engineer that, if the request is granted by the chief engineer, the person shall not be allowed to have a second hearing before the chief engineer after the issuance of the order. Within 15 days after the notice is sent, the person shall notify the chief engineer whether the requestor wants to proceed with a hearing before the chief engineer issues the order.

(2) If a hearing is held by the chief engineer before the issuance of the order by the chief engineer and the person to whom the order is directed still desires to have the order reviewed, the person shall seek review pursuant to K.S.A. 82a-1901, and amendments thereto, if that type of review is authorized by statute.

(f) If a person to whom an order was directed did not have a hearing before the issuance of an

order, that person may request a hearing before the chief engineer after issuance of the order. The person shall submit a written request for hearing to the chief engineer within 15 days of service of the order pursuant to K.S.A. 77-531, and amendments thereto. If a hearing is not requested, the person may seek review pursuant to K.S.A. 82a-1901, and amendments thereto, within 30 days of service of the order pursuant to K.S.A. 77-531 and amendments thereto, if that type of review is authorized by statute. Each request for a hearing shall meet the following requirements:

(1) Be filed in writing with the chief engineer within 15 days after the date of service of the order; and

(2) set forth the factual and legal basis for the hearing request. The factual basis may be stated generally and shall not be required to be specific if the written request clearly establishes the existence of disputed facts. The request for hearing may be denied if the request fails to clearly establish factual or legal issues.

(g) A request for intervention in a matter pending hearing from a person or persons other than those to whom the order is directed may be granted by the chief engineer if all of the following conditions are met:

(1) The chief engineer has issued a notice of hearing.

(2) The person requesting to intervene has filed a notice with the chief engineer that the order in the pending matter could adversely affect one or more of the following:

(A) The person's property interest in the pending matter;

(B) the person's water right or permit to appropriate water; or

(C) the person's statutory duty to act.

(3) The chief engineer has determined that the interests of justice and the orderly and prompt conduct of the proceedings will not be impaired by allowing the intervention. (Authorized by K.S.A. 82a-706a; implementing K.S.A. 82a-706a, K.S.A. 2008 Supp. 82a-708b, 82a-711, 82a-718, 82a-737, 82a-770, and 82a-1901; effective Sept. 22, 2000; amended March 20, 2009.)

5-14-3a. Hearing procedure. The procedures specified in this regulation shall apply to any hearing held by the chief engineer pursuant to K.A.R. 5-14-3. Upon notice to all parties, these procedures may be applied by the chief engineer to any other hearings held under the Kansas water

appropriation act. (a) Unless otherwise required by statute, the following persons and entities shall be allowed to be parties to a formal hearing before the chief engineer:

(1) The division of water resources, Kansas department of agriculture (DWR);

(2) the person or persons to whom the order is, or will be, directed;

(3) the applicant to change the place of use, the point of diversion, the use made of water, or any combination of these, under K.S.A. 82a-708b and amendments thereto, or the applicant to appropriate water for beneficial use under K.S.A. 82a-711, and amendments thereto;

(4) the owners of the proposed place of use and the owners of the place of use authorized under the application, water right, or permit to appropriate water; and

(5) any other person who has filed a timely petition for intervention in accordance with K.A.R. 5-14-3(e).

(b) The hearing shall be presided over by the chief engineer or the chief engineer's designee. Authority may be delegated by the chief engineer to the presiding officer to issue the order or to make written recommendations to the chief engineer after the hearing.

(c) Unless otherwise required by statute, the presiding officer shall issue a written notice of hearing to all parties and to any person who requests notice of a hearing.

(1) Notice of hearing shall be served on the parties as required by statute, but not later than 15 days before the hearing.

(2) The notice of hearing shall be served by mail, facsimile, electronic mail, or hand-delivery and shall be evidenced by a certificate of service. If due diligence fails to locate a person allowed to be a party, then notice by publication shall be made in the manner indicated in K.A.R. 5-14-3a (d) (2).

(3) The notice of hearing shall include the following:

(A) A case or other identification number and a descriptive title, which shall appear on all correspondence relating to the docket. If more than one matter has been consolidated for hearing, all numbers and descriptive titles shall appear on all correspondence;

(B) the names and mailing addresses of all parties;

(C) a statement of the time, place and nature of the hearing. If more than one matter has been

consolidated for hearing, statement of the nature of the hearing shall include all matters to be heard;

(D) a statement that the presiding officer may complete the hearing without the participation of any party who fails to attend or participate in a prehearing conference, hearing, or other stage in the proceeding; and

(E) if nonparties are provided an opportunity to submit comments, the time and place where oral comments will be accepted and the deadline and mailing address for the submission of written comments.

(4) For abandonment hearings under K.S.A. 82a-718, and amendments thereto, the notice of hearing shall include a copy of the verified report of the chief engineer or the chief engineer's representative.

(d) Unless otherwise required by statute, if members of the public will be given an opportunity to submit oral and written comments, notice of the hearing shall be caused by the chief engineer to be distributed in the place or places where the action or proposed action will be effective.

(1) Notice of hearing shall be given as required by statute, but no later than 15 days before the hearing.

(2) The notice of hearing may be published in a newspaper of general circulation where the action or proposed action will be effective as required by statute, but shall be published at least 15 days before the hearing. The notice of hearing shall not be required to be in the form of a legal notice. The notice may also be given by any other means reasonably calculated to reach the residents of the area.

(e) Only the parties named in the notice of hearing or otherwise designated by the chief engineer may participate in the hearing.

(1) Any party may participate in person or, if the party is a corporation or other artificial person, by an authorized representative.

(2) Any party may be represented, at the party's own expense, by legal counsel or, if permitted by law, some other representative.

(3) The presiding officer may refuse to allow representation that would constitute the unauthorized practice of law.

(4) The presiding officer may give nonparties the opportunity to present oral or written statements to be included in the record of the proceedings.

(5) The presiding officer may consider only oral

statements that are given under oath or affirmation and signed written statements.

(6) The presiding officer shall allow all parties a reasonable opportunity to challenge or rebut all oral and written statements received.

(f) The presiding officer may allow any party to participate in prehearing conferences, the hearing, or any other stage of the proceedings by telephone or videoconference.

(1) Unless otherwise authorized by the presiding officer, the party wishing to participate by telephone shall notify the presiding officer at least 48 hours in advance of the prehearing conference. The party wishing to participate by telephone may be granted a continuance if the presiding officer is not able to grant the request.

(2) The presiding officer may require the party wishing to participate by telephone to initiate the call.

(3) The presiding officer may refuse to allow any party to participate by telephone if the party has not notified the presiding officer in advance and made arrangements for that participation or if any party objects.

(g) The presiding officer may hold one or more prehearing conferences as necessary to address preliminary matters or to facilitate the hearing.

(1) Notice of all prehearing conferences shall be given by the presiding officer to all parties and to all persons who have requested that notice. Notice may also be given to other interested persons at least 15 days before the prehearing conference.

(2) The notice of prehearing conference shall include the following:

(A) The names and mailing addresses of all parties;

(B) a statement of the time, place, and nature of the prehearing conference; and

(C) a statement that the presiding officer may complete the hearing without the participation of any party who fails to attend or participate in a prehearing conference, hearing, or other stage in the proceeding.

(3) The presiding officer shall issue a prehearing order after each prehearing conference.

(h) Discovery shall be limited to matters that are clearly relevant to the proceeding.

(i) Each party shall have the opportunity to file pleadings, objections, and motions. At the presiding officer's discretion, any party may be given an opportunity to file briefs, proposed findings of fact and conclusions of law, and proposed orders.

(1) Each party shall serve a copy of any written filings on each of the other parties.

(A) Service may be made by mail, facsimile, electronic mail, or hand-delivery.

(B) Service shall be presumed if the person making service signs a written certificate of service.

(C) Service by mail shall be complete upon mailing.

(2) The presiding officer shall notify all parties of the deadlines for written filings and may extend the deadlines upon request of any party.

(A) Unless otherwise stated in the notice or order of the presiding officer, all deadlines to file documents within a specific number of days shall end at the close of business on the third working day after the deadline set in the notice or order mailed out by the presiding officer.

(B) In computing any deadline, the day of service shall not be included. Working days shall not include Saturdays, Sundays, state holidays, and federal holidays.

(3) The presiding officer shall not be required to consider any written filing that has not been filed on or before the deadline or that is not served on all parties.

(4) Service upon an attorney of record shall be deemed to be service upon the party represented by the attorney.

(j) After the presiding officer has issued a notice of hearing and before an order is issued, no party or its attorneys shall discuss the merits of the proceedings with the presiding officer or with any other person named in the prehearing order as assisting the presiding officer in the hearing, unless all parties have the opportunity to participate.

(1) If the presiding officer receives an ex parte communication, the presiding officer shall notify all parties that an ex parte communication has been received and place the notice in the record of the pending matter. The notice shall contain the following:

(A) A copy of any written ex parte communication received and any written response to the communication; and

(B) a memorandum stating the substance of any oral ex parte communication received, any oral response made, and the identity of each person from whom the oral ex parte communication was received.

(2) Any party may submit written rebuttal to an ex parte communication within 15 days after service of notice of the communication. If any party

submits a written rebuttal to an ex parte communication, that party shall simultaneously serve a copy on all other parties and the presiding officer. All timely filed written rebuttals shall be placed in the record of the pending matter.

(3) A presiding officer who has received an ex parte communication shall withdraw from the pending matter if the presiding officer determines that the communication has rendered the presiding officer no longer qualified to hear the pending matter because of bias, prejudice, or interest.

(4) Any party may petition for the disqualification of a presiding officer upon discovering facts establishing grounds for disqualification because of bias, prejudice, or interest.

(5) Each presiding officer whose disqualification is requested shall determine whether to grant the petition, stating facts and reasons for the determination. The facts and reasons for the presiding officer's decision shall be entered into the record.

(k) The presiding officer may consolidate any proceedings if there are common issues to be resolved or a common factual basis for the proceedings. The presiding officer may consolidate proceedings on the presiding officer's own motion or upon the request of the parties to all proceedings.

(l) The presiding officer may continue the hearing or any other proceeding on that person's own motion or at the request of a party.

(1) A party shall notify all other parties before requesting a continuance.

(2) The presiding officer shall not be required to continue the hearing if all other parties have not been consulted or if any party objects.

(3) Each party who requires a continuance because of an emergency shall notify the presiding officer and any other party as soon as the party reasonably determines that an emergency exists.

(m) Each party shall have a reasonable opportunity to be heard. Each party shall be given the opportunity to present evidence and argument, conduct cross-examination, and submit rebuttal evidence, except as may be restricted by a pre-hearing order or limited grant of intervention.

(1) Unless otherwise limited by this regulation or the presiding officer, each party and each intervenor shall be given an opportunity to make opening statements and closing arguments.

(2) Unless the parties have been required to exchange exhibits before the hearing, each party shall bring a copy of each document offered as evidence for each party and at least two copies for

the presiding officer. If possible, the original document, or a certified copy of the document, shall be offered into evidence at the hearing.

(3) All hearings shall be open to the public.

(4) All testimony of parties and witnesses shall be made under oath or affirmation.

(5) The direct examination of each witness shall be followed by cross-examination of the witness. Cross-examination shall be limited in scope to the testimony upon direct examination. Redirect examination shall be limited in scope to the testimony upon cross-examination. Recross-examination shall be limited in scope to the testimony upon redirect.

(6) No more than one attorney for each party shall examine or cross-examine a witness. The presiding officer may require that only one attorney be allowed to cross-examine a witness on behalf of all parties united in interest.

(7) All testimony shall be taken on the record unless the presiding officer grants a request to go off the record.

(8) At the time determined by the presiding officer, the presiding officer shall announce that the record of exhibits and testimony shall be closed and, if applicable, that the matter has been taken under advisement.

(9) The record shall not be reopened except upon order of the presiding officer or the chief engineer.

(n)(1) In any hearing concerning an application filed under K.S.A. 82a-708b or K.S.A. 82a-711 and amendments thereto, the applicant shall bear the burden of proving, by a preponderance of the evidence, that the application should be approved.

(2) If the DWR does not offer opinion testimony concerning whether and how the application complies or does not comply with the applicable regulations, its participation in the hearing shall be limited as follows:

(A) The DWR shall make a proffer of the records of the agency pertaining to the pending matter and may offer the testimony of fact witnesses to lay foundation for the proffer. These witnesses may be cross-examined, but cross-examination shall be limited to the scope of the direct questioning.

(B) If any member of the DWR's staff is called as a witness for or is cross-examined by another party, the DWR shall be allowed to conduct cross-examination of the witnesses offered by that party.

(3) The applicant shall be heard after the DWR's proffer, unless the presiding officer de-

termines that another order of presentation will facilitate the conduct of the hearing.

(4) If the DWR offers opinion testimony concerning whether and how the application complies or does not comply with the applicable regulations, the DWR shall be heard after the applicant and the DWR may participate in the hearing to the same extent as the applicant, unless the presiding officer determines that a different order of presentation will facilitate the conduct of the hearing.

(5) The presiding officer shall determine the order in which other parties and interveners may be heard.

(o) In hearings concerning the assessment of a civil penalty, the modification of a water right, the suspension of a water right, or the suspension of the use of water under a water right, the following requirements shall be met:

(1) The DWR shall bear the burden of proving, by a preponderance of the evidence, that a violation under K.S.A. 82a-737 and amendments thereto or K.S.A. 82a-770 and amendments thereto, or both, has occurred.

(2) The DWR shall be heard first at the hearing, unless the presiding officer determines that a different order of presentation will facilitate the conduct of the hearing. The presiding officer shall determine the order in which other parties and interveners may be heard.

(p) In an abandonment hearing pursuant to K.S.A. 82a-718 and amendments thereto, the DWR shall first present the verified report specified in K.S.A. 82a-718, and amendments thereto.

(1) The verified report shall be a report of the DWR's investigation into the water use history and shall contain the following:

(A) Documentation that shows the use or non-use of water authorized by the water right as established by the contents of the DWR water right file and as reported to the DWR, pursuant to K.S.A. 82a-732 and amendments thereto;

(B) the analysis of the documentation used in the verified report by the preparer of the verified report;

(C) a conclusion citing the specific successive years of nonuse to meet the criteria for abandonment found in K.S.A. 82a-718 and amendments thereto; and

(D) the years for which due and sufficient cause for nonuse pursuant to K.A.R. 5-7-1 was reported to the chief engineer pursuant to K.S.A. 82a-732,

and amendments thereto, and verified by the DWR.

(2)(A) If the verified report specified by K.S.A. 82a-718(a), and amendments thereto, establishes that there has been no lawful, beneficial use of water for the period of time specified in K.S.A. 82a-718(a) and amendments thereto and that due and sufficient cause for the nonuse of water has not been reported to the DWR pursuant to K.S.A. 82a-732 and amendments thereto during this period, this shall be considered to be prima facie evidence that the water right has been abandoned.

(B) Upon a determination by the presiding officer that prima facie evidence of abandonment exists, the water right owner shall bear the burden of rebutting the prima facie evidence by a preponderance of the evidence establishing that there had been lawful, beneficial use of water during the time period in question or that due and sufficient cause existed for the nonuse of water during the period of time in question, or both, to avoid the application of K.S.A. 82a-718(a) and amendments thereto.

(3) The DWR may participate in the hearing to the same extent as the owner or owners of the water right.

(4) The DWR shall be heard first at the hearing, unless the presiding officer determines that another order of presentation will facilitate the conduct of the hearing.

(5) The presiding officer shall determine the order in which other parties and interveners may be heard.

(q) During the hearing, all of the following shall apply:

(1) The presiding officer shall not be bound by the technical rules of evidence.

(2) The presiding officer shall give the parties a reasonable opportunity to be heard and to present evidence.

(3) The presiding officer shall give effect to the privileges listed in K.S.A. 60-426 through 436, and amendment thereto, and any other privileges recognized by law.

(4) Evidence shall not be required to be excluded solely if the evidence is hearsay.

(5) All parties may note, in the record, their exceptions to any ruling or other action of the presiding officer.

(6) If the presiding officer sustains an objection to evidence or testimony, the party may make a proffer of the excluded evidence. The presiding officer may add other statements to clearly show

the character of the evidence, the form in which the evidence was offered, and the objection and the ruling made. Upon request, the excluded testimony or evidence shall be marked and preserved for the record upon appeal.

(7) Without notice to the parties and without receiving a request from any party, the presiding officer may take administrative notice of the following:

(A) The Kansas water appropriation act and other Kansas statutes;

(B) regulations promulgated by the chief engineer;

(C) orders issued by or on behalf of the chief engineer; and

(D) specific facts and propositions of general knowledge that are so universally known or known within the profession that they cannot reasonably be the subject of dispute or that are capable of immediate and accurate determination by using easily accessible sources of indisputable accuracy.

(8) Upon reasonable notice to the parties and the opportunity to contest and offer rebuttal evidence, the presiding officer may also take administrative notice of any of the following:

(A) Scientific or technical matters within the DWR's specialized knowledge;

(B) the record of other proceedings before the DWR; and

(C) codes and standards that have been adopted by an agency of the United States, the state of Kansas, or any other state or by a nationally recognized organization or association.

(r) The hearing and all prehearing conferences shall be electronically recorded at the expense of the Kansas department of agriculture (KDA).

(1) Copies of electronic recordings may be obtained from the DWR. Written transcripts of the recording shall be available by request, and the requestor shall pay the cost of transcription.

(2) The DWR shall hire and pay for a court reporter if deemed necessary by the presiding officer for the presiding officer's use or for the preservation of testimony for later use in a court proceeding. Written transcripts shall be obtained directly from the court reporter at the requestor's expense.

(s) If the chief engineer has not delegated authority to the presiding officer to issue an order, the presiding officer shall issue written recommendations to the chief engineer after the record of the hearing is closed.

(1) The recommendations shall be signed by

the presiding officer and shall contain a statement of the recommended decision and the facts and conclusions of law upon which the recommended decision is based.

(2) The presiding officer shall serve the original, signed recommendations on the chief engineer and a copy of the recommendations on each party and on its counsel of record, if any, in the manner specified in this regulation.

(3) The recommendations shall state that the parties have at least 15 days after service in which to provide written comments to the chief engineer and shall contain a certificate of service. After the record of the hearing is closed, no party may submit additional evidence unless specifically permitted to do so by the presiding officer in advance of the submission. In order to receive permission to submit additional evidence, the party shall file a written request with the presiding officer, in advance, with a copy to each other party. Each other party shall be given a reasonable chance to respond to the request to submit additional information. If additional evidence is allowed, each other party shall be allowed a reasonable opportunity to rebut the additional evidence submitted.

(4) All comments submitted within the specified time frame shall be considered by the chief engineer before issuing an order.

(5) The order shall state that it is subject to review by the secretary of agriculture pursuant to K.S.A. 82a-1901, and amendments thereto.

(t) An order shall be issued by the chief engineer or, if so authorized, the presiding officer after the record of the hearing is closed.

(1) The order shall be signed by the chief engineer or the presiding officer and shall contain a statement of the relevant law and the facts upon which the decision is based.

(2) The order shall be served on each party or its counsel of record in the manner specified in these regulations and shall contain a certificate of service.

(3) If the presiding officer made recommendations to the chief engineer, the order shall state which recommendations, if any, have been accepted by the chief engineer. (Authorized by K.S.A. 82a-706a; implementing K.S.A. 2008 Supp. 82a-708b, 82a-711, 82a-718, 82a-737, 82a-770, 82a-1038, and 82a-1901; effective March 20, 2009.)

Article 16.—FLEX ACCOUNT

5-16-1. Definitions. As used in this article, in the Kansas water appropriation act, and by the

chief engineer in the administration of the Kansas water appropriation act, unless the context clearly requires otherwise, the following words and phrases shall have the meanings specified in this regulation. (a) “Base amount” and “BA” mean the quantity of water deposited in a flex account.

(b) “Base average usage factor” and “BAUF” mean the percentage of the “base average usage,” as this term is defined in K.S.A. 82a-736 and amendments thereto, that is multiplied by five as a part of the calculations specified in K.A.R. 5-16-5 to determine the quantity of water that may be deposited into a flex account. The BAUF shall not exceed the maximum of 90% established by K.S.A. 82a-736, and amendments thereto.

(c) “Base water right” means a vested or certified water right or rights for which the owner applies to the chief engineer to establish a flex account pursuant to K.S.A. 82a-736, and amendments thereto.

(d) “BAU” means the “base average usage” as defined in K.S.A. 82a-736, and amendments thereto.

(e) “Good standing,” only as that term is used in K.S.A. 82a-736 and amendments thereto, in reference to base water rights, means a base water right that meets the following conditions:

(1) Has been lawfully exercised within the period specified in K.A.R. 5-16-5;

(2) has had all required water use reports filed and any civil fines assessed for failure to timely file a complete and accurate water use report paid; and

(3) has had no period of nonuse with a duration of five or more consecutive years since January 1, 1990, except for enrollment in the water right conservation program pursuant to K.A.R. 5-7-4 or L. 2011, ch. 89, sec. 25 and amendments thereto, enrollment in the federal conservation reserve program, or enrollment in another multiyear federal or state conservation program.

(f) “Significant water conservation measures” means actual physical changes in a water distribution system or management practices that improve water use efficiency, including the following:

(1) Conversion from flood irrigation to center pivot irrigation with a nozzle package designed to improve water use efficiency;

(2) irrigation scheduling;

(3) conversion to subsurface drip irrigation; and

(4) removal of an end gun, resulting in a significant reduction in the number of irrigated acres.

(Authorized by K.S.A. 82a-706a; implementing K.S.A. 2010 Supp. 82a-736, as amended by L. 2011, ch. 89, sec. 28; effective Oct. 11, 2002; amended Jan. 6, 2006; amended, T-5-8-29-11, Aug. 29, 2011; amended Dec. 16, 2011.)

5-16-3. Establishing a flex account. (a) A flex account shall be established by filing an application for a flex account and a term permit on a form prescribed by the chief engineer. Each application shall meet the following requirements:

(1) Show the location of all wells located within one-half mile of the proposed point of diversion and the names, addresses, and telephone numbers of the owners of those wells. Except as specified in subsection (e), a separate application shall be filed for each water right and each point of diversion for which the owner desires to establish a flex account. Each application shall be accompanied by the filing fee specified in K.A.R. 5-16-2;

(2) be date-stamped showing the date the application was filed with the chief engineer;

(3) indicate the five consecutive years that are to be designated as the flex account period; and

(4) indicate whether the flex account period will commence with the year in which the application is filed or with the next year after the year in which the application is filed.

(b) Before any application to establish a flex account and a term permit will be accepted for filing, the application shall be signed by at least one owner of the water right, or a duly authorized agent of an owner of the water right.

(c) Before the flex account can be established or the term permit approved, all of the water rights owners, or a duly authorized agent of the owners, shall verify upon oath or affirmation that the statements contained in the application are true and complete.

(d) If one or more owners refuse to sign the application or if a written request is filed by one or more of the owners to withdraw their signatures from the application before the application is approved, the application shall be dismissed.

(e) A single application to establish a flex account and apply for a term permit may be filed in either of the following situations:

(1) Multiple water rights authorize the diversion of water from a single point of diversion that diverts water to an identical place of use for a single type of use.

(2) Multiple points of diversion are authorized by the chief engineer to divert water through a

single water flowmeter before going to an identical place of use.

(f) The flex account shall not be established and the term permit to exercise the flex account shall not be valid until both have been approved by the chief engineer. (Authorized by K.S.A. 82a-706a; implementing K.S.A. 2010 Supp. 82a-736, as amended by L. 2011, ch. 89, sec. 28; effective Oct. 11, 2002; amended, T-5-8-29-11, Aug. 29, 2011; amended Dec. 16, 2011.)

5-16-5. Maximum annual quantity of water authorized by term permit. (a) Except as specified in subsections (b) through (e), the maximum quantity of water deposited in a flex account and authorized to be diverted in five consecutive calendar years under the authority of a term permit shall be determined in accordance with K.S.A. 82a-736, and amendments thereto, by means of performing the following calculations:

(1) Add the quantity of water lawfully used under the base water right or rights each year during the period 2000 through 2009. This sum is the total quantity of water;

(2) divide that total quantity of water by 10;

(3) multiply that resulting quantity in paragraph (a)(2) by the BAUF;

(4) multiply that resulting quantity in paragraph (a)(3) by five; and

(5) if the application required by K.A.R. 5-16-3 was filed after November 1 of the year designated as the first year of the flex account period, subtract the quantity of water used under the base water right during the year in which the application was filed from the resulting quantity in paragraph (a)(4).

(b) If significant water conservation measures were implemented under the base water rights at any time during the period of calendar years 2000 through 2009, the average annual quantity of water actually used may be calculated using the five consecutive calendar years immediately preceding the implementation of significant water conservation measures, but these five calendar years shall not begin before calendar year 1995. The five-year allocation under the term permit shall be determined by performing the following calculations:

(1) Add the quantity of water lawfully used each year under the base water right or rights for the five consecutive calendar years. This sum is the total quantity of water;

(2) divide that total quantity of water by five;

(3) multiply that resulting quantity in paragraph (b)(2) by the BAUF;

(4) multiply that resulting quantity in paragraph (b)(3) by five; and

(5) if the application required by K.A.R. 5-16-3 was filed after November 1 of the year designated as the first year of the flex account period, subtract the quantity of water used under the base water right during the year in which the application was filed from the resulting quantity in paragraph (b)(4).

(c) If water use records for a base water right are inadequate to accurately determine actual water use during any calendar year during the period used to determine the base average usage, then that year shall be counted as having no water use.

(d) No flex account shall be allowed if the flex account is inconsistent with the provisions of any intensive groundwater use control area created pursuant to K.S.A. 82a-1036 through K.S.A. 82a-1040, and amendments thereto.

(e)(1) If water was authorized to be diverted for less than the entire period used to determine the base average usage, the five-year allocation shall be determined by means of these calculations:

(A) Add the quantity of water lawfully used each year under the base water right or rights for the entire period used. This sum is the base average usage;

(B) divide the base average usage by the number of years, or parts thereof, that water was authorized to be diverted by the chief engineer;

(C) multiply that resulting quantity in paragraph (e)(2) by the BAUF;

(D) multiply that resulting quantity in paragraph (e)(3) by five; and

(E) if the application required by K.A.R. 5-16-3 was filed after November 1 of the year designated as the first year of the flex account period, subtract the quantity of water used under the base water right during the year in which the application was filed from the resulting quantity in paragraph (e)(4).

(2) Water rights that authorized use of water for less than two calendar years during the period used to determine the base average usage shall not be eligible for a flex account. (Authorized by K.S.A. 82a-706a; implementing K.S.A. 2010 Supp. 82a-736, as amended by L. 2011, ch. 89, sec. 28; effective Oct. 11, 2002; amended Jan. 6, 2006; amended, T-5-8-29-11, Aug. 29, 2011; amended Dec. 16, 2011.)

Article 17.—WATER BANKING**5-17-2. Application to deposit a water right into a water bank or withdraw a deposit.**

(a) Each water right owner proposing to deposit all or a portion of a water right into a water bank shall complete an application on a form prescribed by the water bank and approved by the chief engineer. The application shall be filed with the water bank on or before April 1 of the year in which the deposit will be made. A water right, or a portion of a water right, may be deposited only in increments of full calendar years. A water right shall not be eligible for deposit if water use occurred under the water right, or a portion of the water right, at any time from January 1 through March 31 of the year in which the deposit will be made. The application shall contain the following information concerning the water right, or portion of the water right, that is proposed to be deposited:

(1) The file number of the water right to be deposited;

(2) if the water right is a vested right or an appropriation right that has been certified by the chief engineer, specification of that status;

(3) the hydrologic unit from which the water right is authorized to withdraw water;

(4) the calendar years during which the water right will be on deposit. This period shall not exceed five years; and

(5) any CRP contracts that were in effect for any part of the representative past period.

(b) A water right may be withdrawn from deposit only if both of the following conditions are met:

(1) The water right has not been leased in whole or part.

(2) An application to withdraw the water right from deposit is made before July 1 of the calendar year for which the deposit has been made. Withdrawal of a water right during one calendar year also shall withdraw the water right from deposit in any subsequent years for which the water right may have been deposited. (Authorized by K.S.A. 2009 Supp. 82a-769; implementing K.S.A. 2009 Supp. 82a-763, K.S.A. 2009 Supp. 82a-764, and K.S.A. 2009 Supp. 82a-769; effective Aug. 13, 2004; amended May 21, 2010.)

Article 20.—INTENSIVE GROUNDWATER USE CONTROL AREA**5-20-1. Intensive groundwater use control area; public hearings.** (a) In any case in

which the chief engineer initiates proceedings for the designation of an intensive groundwater use control area (IGUCA), an independent hearing officer shall be appointed by the chief engineer. The independent hearing officer shall meet the following requirements:

(1) Not have been an employee of the department of agriculture for at least five years before the appointment;

(2) be admitted to practice law in this state; and

(3) be knowledgeable by training and experience in water law and administrative procedure.

(b)(1) The independent hearing officer shall conduct one or more public hearings to determine whether both of the following conditions are met:

(A) One or more of the circumstances specified in K.S.A. 82a-1036, and amendments thereto, exist.

(B) The public interest requires that one or more corrective control provisions should be adopted.

(2) If both of the conditions in paragraph (b)(1) are met, the independent hearing officer shall recommend the boundaries of the IGUCA.

(c) At the public hearing specified in subsection (b), all of the following requirements shall be met:

(1) Documentary and oral evidence shall be taken, and a full and complete record of the public hearing shall be kept.

(2) The division of water resource's (DWR's) staff shall make a proffer of the records of the division pertaining to the proposed IGUCA and may present background, hydrologic, and other information and an analysis of that information, concerning the area in question.

(3) The DWR's proffer and any other DWR presentations shall be heard first, unless the hearing officer determines that a different order of presentation will facilitate the conduct of the hearing.

(4) If any part of the proposed IGUCA is within the boundaries of a groundwater management district (GMD), a representative of that GMD shall be allowed to present the GMD's own data, analysis, comments, provisions of the GMD's revised management plan, regulations, and recommendations at any public hearing.

(5) Each person shall be allowed to give an oral statement under oath or affirmation or to present documentary evidence, including a signed written statement.

(6) At the end of the public hearing, a reason-

able opportunity for any person to submit oral or written comments concerning the matters presented may be allowed by the hearing officer.

(7) The hearing shall be conducted according to the procedure specified in K.A.R. 5-14-3a. The hearing officer shall have the discretion to use a different procedure if it facilitates the conduct of the hearing.

(8) The independent hearing officer shall make the following findings of fact:

(A) Whether one or more of the circumstances specified in K.S.A. 82a-1036, and amendments thereto, exist; and

(B) whether the public interest requires that one or more corrective control provisions should be adopted.

(9) The independent hearing officer shall transmit the findings to the chief engineer.

(d) The proceeding shall be concluded if the independent hearing officer finds that at least one of the following conditions is met:

(1) None of the circumstances specified in K.S.A. 82a-1036, and amendments thereto, exist.

(2) The public interest does not require that any corrective control provisions should be adopted.

(e) The procedure specified in subsection (f) shall be followed by the chief engineer if the independent hearing officer meets all of the following conditions:

(1) Finds that one or more of the conditions specified in K.S.A. 82a-1036, and amendments thereto, exist;

(2) finds that public interest requires that any one or more corrective control provisions should be adopted; and

(3) recommends the boundaries of the proposed IGUCA.

(f) If the independent hearing officer makes the findings and recommendation specified in subsection (e), one or more public hearings shall be conducted by the chief engineer to determine the following:

(1) What the goals of the IGUCA should be;

(2) what corrective control provisions should be adopted; and

(3) what the final boundaries of the IGUCA should be.

After the hearing, the order described in K.S.A. 82a-1038, and amendments thereto, shall be issued by the chief engineer. The chief engineer's order shall include the independent hearing officer's findings of fact.

(g) Notice of the public hearings held by the independent hearing officer shall be given by regular mail and by publication, as specified in K.S.A. 82a-1037 and amendments thereto. (Authorized by K.S.A. 82a-706a; implementing K.S.A. 74-510a, K.S.A. 82a-1036, K.S.A. 82a-1037, and K.S.A. 2008 Supp. 82a-1038; effective Sept. 18, 2009.)

5-20-2. Formal review of intensive groundwater use control area orders.

(a) For each intensive groundwater use control area (IGUCA) designated by order of the chief engineer before July 1, 2008, pursuant to K.S.A. 82a-1038 and amendments thereto, a public hearing to review the designation shall be conducted by the chief engineer within seven years of the effective date of this regulation. A subsequent review of the designation shall occur within 10 years after the previous public review hearing or more frequently as determined by the chief engineer.

(b) For each IGUCA designated by order of the chief engineer on or after July 1, 2008, a public hearing to review the designation shall be conducted by the chief engineer within seven years after the order is final. A subsequent review of the designation shall occur within 10 years after the previous public review hearing or more frequently as determined by the chief engineer.

(c) Upon the request of a petition signed by at least five percent of the affected water users in an IGUCA designated by order of the chief engineer, a public review hearing to review the designation shall be conducted by the chief engineer. This requested public review hearing shall not be conducted more frequently than every four years.

(d) Written notice of a public review hearing shall be given to each person holding a water right in the affected area. Notice of the hearing shall be given by publication in a newspaper or newspapers of general circulation within the affected area at least 30 days before the date set for the hearing. The notice shall indicate the reason for the hearing and shall specify the time and place of the hearing. At the public review hearing, documentary and oral evidence shall be taken, and a full and complete record of the public review hearing shall be kept.

(e) The following shall be considered by the chief engineer at the public review hearing:

(1) Whether one or more of the circumstances specified in K.S.A. 82a-1036, and amendments thereto, exist; and

(2) whether the public interest requires that the IGUCA designation be continued. The state shall have the burden of proving the need for continuance of the IGUCA designation.

(f) Based on the review specified in subsection (e), one of the following actions shall be taken by the chief engineer:

(1) Continue the IGUCA with its original or current corrective control provisions;

(2) reduce the restrictions imposed by one or more corrective control provisions within the scope and goals specified in the original IGUCA order;

(3) reduce the IGUCA boundaries;

(4) increase any allocations within the IGUCA;

(5) address any other issues that have been identified in the review; or

(6) revoke the IGUCA order and implement alternative measures, if necessary, to address the water issues in the affected areas.

(g) If, as a result of the review specified in subsection (e), the chief engineer determines that the restrictions imposed by current corrective control provisions may need to be increased or additional corrective control provisions may be needed, a hearing shall be conducted by the chief engineer according to K.A.R. 5-14-3a.

(h) If, as a result of the review specified in subsection (e), the chief engineer determines that the boundaries of the IGUCA may need to be increased, a new IGUCA proceeding shall be initiated by the chief engineer pursuant to K.A.R. 5-20-1. (Authorized by K.S.A. 82a-706a; implementing K.S.A. 82a-706 and K.S.A. 82a-1036; effective Sept. 18, 2009.)

Article 21.—WESTERN KANSAS GROUNDWATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICT NO. 1

5-21-4. Safe yield. (a) Except as specified in subsection (c), the district shall be closed to new appropriations of water in the portions of the unconsolidated aquifers commonly known as the Ogallala formation and the Niobrara formation that are located within the district.

(b) The approval of each application for a change in the point of diversion shall be subject to the following requirements, if the diversion works have not been completed under the original approved application:

(1) The proposed appropriation, when added to the vested rights, prior appropriation rights, and

earlier priority applications, shall not exceed the allowable safe yield amount for the area included within a two-mile-radius circle, which is approximately 8,042 acres, of the proposed well.

(2) For the purpose of analysis, all vested rights, certificates, permits, and prior unapproved applications shall be considered to be fully exercised, and all limitation clauses listed on permits to appropriate water and certificates shall be considered to be in force.

(3) In the case of an application for change in the point of diversion referred to in subsection (b), each application and water right with a priority earlier than the priority established by the filing of the application for change shall be included in the analysis.

(4) The allowable annual safe yield amount shall be calculated using the following formula:

$$Q = \frac{AR}{12}$$

Q = the allowable annual safe yield amount in acre-feet per year

A = area of consideration, within a two-mile-radius circle, approximately 8,042 acres

R = average annual recharge of 0.5 inches per year

(5) If part of the radial area is located outside the district boundary, that part shall be included in the depletion analysis only if the chief engineer determines that hydraulically connected groundwater exists in that portion of the area outside the district. A part of the area of consideration lying outside the state of Kansas shall not be included in the analysis.

(6) If wells authorized under a vested right, a certified water right, or a permit to appropriate water are divided by the circumference of the radial area, the authorized quantity of water shall be assigned to each well. If specific quantities are not authorized for each well, a proportional amount shall be assigned to each well.

(c) This regulation shall not apply to the following:

(1) Domestic use;

(2) temporary permits and term permits; and

(3) a new application filed to appropriate groundwater in any area of the district not within an intensive groundwater use control area, meeting all of the following criteria:

(A) The sum of the annual quantity requested by the proposed appropriation and the total annual quantities authorized by prior permits al-

lowed because of an exemption pursuant to this subsection does not exceed 15 acre-feet in a two-mile-radius circle surrounding the proposed point of diversion.

(B) Well spacing criteria in the area have been met.

(C) The approval of the application does not authorize an additional quantity of water out of an existing authorized well with a nondomestic permit or water right that would result in a total combined annual quantity of water authorized from that well in excess of 15 acre-feet.

(D) All other criteria for approving a new application to appropriate water at that location have been met.

(d) Exceptions to this regulation may be granted on an individual basis by recommendation by the board in conjunction with the approval of the chief engineer. The applicant may be required by the board to submit information necessary in order to make the determination. (Authorized by K.S.A. 82a-706a and K.S.A. 2009 Supp. 82a-1028; implementing K.S.A. 82a-706, K.S.A. 82a-708b, and K.S.A. 2009 Supp. 82a-1028; effective May 23, 1994; amended Sept. 22, 2000; amended April 15, 2011.)

Article 22.—EQUUS BEDS GROUNDWATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICT NO. 2

5-22-4a. Water flowmeter requirement.

Each nondomestic, nontemporary well meeting any of the following conditions shall be equipped with a water flowmeter that meets or exceeds the requirements of K.A.R. 5-22-4: (a) A well operated under the authority of an approval of application issued on or after September 1, 1987;

(b) a well operated under the approval of an application for change in the place of use, the point of diversion, or the use made of the water, or any combination of these, filed after September 1, 1987;

(c) a well that meets the standards for being a standby well as specified in K.A.R. 5-22-1;

(d) a well for which a certificate of appropriation was issued on or after July 1, 1995;

(e) a well not equipped with a water flowmeter before December 31, 2010. Each such well shall be equipped with a water flowmeter that meets or exceeds the requirements of K.A.R. 5-22-4, pursuant to the following schedule:

(1) On or before December 31, 2012, each well

in the northeast quarter of every section located within the district boundaries;

(2) on or before December 31, 2013, each well in the southeast quarter of every section located within the district boundaries;

(3) on or before December 31, 2014, each well in the southwest quarter of every section located within the district boundaries; and

(4) on or before December 31, 2015, each well in the northwest quarter of every section located within the district boundaries; or

(f) a well for which the board determines it is necessary to have a water flowmeter to ensure any of the following:

(1) The accuracy of reported water use;

(2) compliance with the terms, conditions, and limitations of the water right, approval of application, or approval of change; or

(3) nonimpairment of other water rights. (Authorized by and implementing K.S.A. 2010 Supp. 82a-1028; effective Jan. 10, 2003; amended Aug. 5, 2011.)

5-22-4d. Water flowmeter installation procedures. (a) If installation of a water flowmeter is required by the board, the owner of the approval of application or the water right shall be notified of the requirement in writing.

(b) A water flowmeter shall be installed on a new or replacement point of diversion within 30 days after the point of diversion is operational, or before the diversion of water, whichever occurs first.

(c) Unless otherwise specified by the board, a water flowmeter shall be installed on an existing point of diversion within 30 days of the issuance of the water flowmeter order by the district, or before the diversion of water, whichever occurs first.

(d) An extension of time to install the water flowmeter may be granted by the board, or the board's designee, if a request for an extension of time is filed with the district before the expiration of the time to install the water flowmeter and one of the following conditions is met:

(1) The water right owner has a contract with a vendor to install a water flowmeter, but the vendor cannot complete the installation within the time allowed.

(2) Weather, site conditions, or other conditions beyond the control of the owner prevent the water flowmeter from being installed within the time allowed.

(3) The owner demonstrates any other reason constituting good cause why the water flowmeter cannot be installed within the time allowed and that granting an extension of time will not be adverse to the public interest.

(e) The water right owner shall notify the district within 30 days after the required water flowmeter is installed. The notification shall be submitted on a form prescribed by the board, or the board's designee.

(f) An inspection of the water flowmeter installation may be made by the board, or the board's designee, to determine if the water flowmeter has been properly installed in accordance with the requirements of K.A.R. 5-22-4, K.A.R. 5-22-4a, and K.A.R. 5-22-4b.

(g) If an inspection is made by the board or the board's designee, the owner shall be notified by the board, or the board's designee, of the results of the inspection in writing. (Authorized by and implementing K.S.A. 82a-706a and K.S.A. 2010 Supp. 82a-1028; effective Nov. 12, 2004; amended Aug. 5, 2011.)

5-22-7. Safe yield. (a) Except as specified in subsection (b), the approval of each application for a change in the point of diversion, term permit, and permit to appropriate water for beneficial use shall be subject to the following requirements:

(1) The sum of prior appropriations shall include all of the following:

- (A) The proposed application;
- (B) vested rights;
- (C) appropriation rights;
- (D) term permits;
- (E) earlier priority applications; and
- (F) baseflow nodes.

The sum of prior appropriations shall not exceed the allowable safe-yield amount for the area of consideration. The non-consumptive use of groundwater previously authorized by the chief engineer shall be excluded from the sum of prior appropriations.

(2) The quantity authorized on all prior permits, certificates, and vested rights, the quantity requested on prior applications, and the quantities allocated to baseflow nodes shall be used to calculate the sum of prior appropriations and baseflow allocations.

(3) All conditions and limitation clauses listed on all prior appropriations and applications in the area of consideration shall be considered in effect.

(4) The baseflow allocation for baseflow nodes

shall be calculated using the formula $Qa = T/N$ where:

(A) Qa is the baseflow allocation per baseflow node in acre-feet per year;

(B) T is the total baseflow allocation for a reach of a stream in acre-feet per calendar year. T is the average of the 12 calendar months' daily flow values in cubic feet per second that were equaled or exceeded 90 percent of the time during a specifically designated hydrologically significant period of record, times a factor of 724; and

(C) N is the number of baseflow nodes established on a stream or reach of a stream. Nodes are located at the upstream end of the watercourse reach and thereafter at the intersection of the channel of a watercourse and an arc of a 1,320 foot-radius circle whose center is located on the previously established baseflow node.

(5) The allowable safe-yield amount shall be calculated using the formula $S = A \times K$ where:

(A) S is the allowable safe-yield amount in acre-feet per year;

(B) A is the area of consideration; and

(C) K is an aquifer recharge value in feet. Everywhere in the district, except in McPherson county, K is equal to 0.5 feet per year. In McPherson county, K is a constant equaling 0.25 feet per year. K is calculated by multiplying the recharge percentage, which is 10 percent in McPherson county and 20 percent for the rest of the district, times the average annual precipitation of 2.5 feet per year.

(6) When evaluating an application for a change in the point of diversion, each application with a priority earlier than the priority established by the filing of the application of change shall be included in the safe-yield analysis.

(7) If the perimeter of the area under consideration intersects a group of wells authorized under prior applications, permits, certificates, or vested rights, a reasonable quantity of water shall be assigned to each well based upon the best available information.

(b) The following shall not be subject to this regulation:

(1) An application to appropriate groundwater in an area not closed by regulation or intensive groundwater use control area order by the chief engineer to new non-domestic, non-temporary permits and term permits for five or fewer years, if all of the following conditions are met:

(A) The annual quantity of water requested in the application does not exceed 15 acre-feet;

(B) the sum of the annual quantity of water requested in the application and the total annual quantities of water authorized by prior approvals of applications allowed because of an exemption pursuant to this regulation does not exceed 45 acre-feet in a two-mile-radius circle surrounding the proposed point of diversion;

(C) the approval of the application does not authorize an additional quantity of water out of an existing authorized point of diversion with a non-domestic approval of application or water right that would then authorize a total combined annual quantity of water from that point of diversion in excess of 15 acre-feet;

(D) the approval of the application does not authorize an additional quantity of water to be used on a currently authorized non-domestic place of use in excess of 15 acre-feet;

(E) the approval of the application does not authorize an additional quantity of water to be pumped through a common distribution system in excess of 15 acre-feet;

(F) the application meets the well spacing criteria in K.A.R. 5-22-2; and

(G) the application meets the requirements of all other applicable regulations in effect when the application is filed;

(2) an application for a non-consumptive use of groundwater;

(3) an application for change in point of diversion, if the following conditions are met:

(A) The diversion works were completed 300 feet or less from the originally authorized point of diversion and within 150 feet of the location approved by the chief engineer; and

(B) a notice of completion was timely filed with the chief engineer under the original approval of application;

(4) an application requesting only an additional rate of diversion on an existing well, if the approval of the application meets the following requirements:

(A) Is limited to the maximum annual quantity of water authorized by a prior certified, vested, or appropriation right; and

(B) contains both of the following requirements:

(i) The approved application for additional rate shall be dismissed if the prior certified, vested, or appropriation right is dismissed and terminated; and

(ii) the approved or certified maximum annual quantity of water shall be reduced in an amount

equal to any subsequent reduction in the maximum annual quantity of water authorized by the prior certified, vested, or appropriation right;

(5) an application for a standby well;

(6) an application for a bank storage well only to the extent that the bank storage well is withdrawing bank storage water; and

(7) an application for an aquifer storage and recovery well. (Authorized by and implementing K.S.A. 82a-706a and K.S.A. 2008 Supp. 82a-1028; effective May 1, 1983; amended Oct. 15, 1990; amended March 7, 1994; amended Nov. 12, 2004; amended May 14, 2010.)

Article 25.—BIG BEND GROUNDWATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICT NO. 5

5-25-5. Water flowmeter requirements.

Each non-domestic well, except any well authorized by a temporary permit, shall be equipped with a water flowmeter. Each water flowmeter required by the board shall meet or exceed the specifications in K.A.R. 5-1-4 through 5-1-12. (Authorized by and implementing K.S.A. 82a-706a and K.S.A. 2009 Supp. 82a-1028; effective May 1, 1980; amended May 1, 1985; amended April 19, 1996; amended Oct. 31, 2003; amended Nov. 19, 2010.)

5-25-15. Exemptions for up to 15 acre-feet of groundwater. Except as specified in subsections (b) and (c), an application to appropriate groundwater for up to 15 acre-feet of water shall be approved if all of the conditions in subsection (a) are met.

(a) (1) The sum of the annual quantity of water requested by the new application and the total annual quantities authorized by prior approvals of applications because of an exemption pursuant to this regulation does not exceed 15 acre-feet in a one-mile-radius circle surrounding the proposed point of diversion.

(2) The application meets the spacing criteria set forth in K.A.R. 5-25-2.

(3) The approval of an application will not authorize an additional quantity of water from an existing non-domestic vested right, permit, or water right that would result in a total combined annual quantity of water authorized from the point of diversion in excess of 15 acre-feet.

(4) The applicant demonstrates that approval of up to 15 acre-feet of water will not impair existing water rights or permits to appropriate water for

beneficial use and will not prejudicially and unreasonably affect the public interest.

(5) All requirements of K.S.A. 82a-709 and K.S.A. 82a-711, and amendments thereto, and K.A.R. 5-3-1 and K.A.R. 5-3-1b for processing a new application to appropriate water have been met.

(b) Exemptions to approve a new application to appropriate water in accordance with this regulation shall not be approved if the exemption would conflict with any provisions of an intensive groundwater use control area order issued by the chief engineer pursuant to K.S.A. 82a-1036 through K.S.A. 82a-1040, and amendments thereto.

(c) In addition to meeting the conditions in subsection (a), each application to appropriate groundwater for beneficial use shall meet the requirements of subsection (d) if the application includes a proposed point of diversion located within the boundaries of any of the following drainage basins as defined in K.A.R. 5-6-15:

- (1) Rattlesnake Creek basin;
- (2) Arkansas River basin;
- (3) Walnut Creek basin;
- (4) Pawnee River basin; and
- (5) Buckner Creek basin.

(d) The following requirements shall apply to the applications described in subsection (c):

(1) The maximum annual quantity of water proposed in the application shall be 15 acre-feet or less.

(2) The proposed point of diversion shall meet the spacing criteria provided in K.A.R. 5-25-2.

(3) The authorized quantity of an existing water right shall be reduced, as provided in paragraph (d)(7), to offset the annual quantity requested in paragraph (d)(1), and the existing water right shall divert water from the same source of water supply that has a point of diversion located according to either of the following:

(A) Within 3.5 miles of the proposed point of diversion; or

(B) within a one-mile corridor of the major stream segment designated for stream restoration in the same basin of the proposed point of diversion.

(4) The point of diversion proposed through an offset shall not be closer to a stream than the point of diversion reduced pursuant to paragraph (a)(3) if the authorized well is within three miles of a stream.

(5) All issues relating to the possible abandon-

ment of the offsetting water right shall be resolved by the chief engineer before determining the annual quantity of offset water that is available from the existing water right.

(6) The approval of the application shall not authorize an additional quantity of water to be used on a currently authorized nondomestic place of use.

(7) If the water right to be used as the offset for the new appropriation is a water right authorized for irrigation use, the authorized quantity of water needed to offset the new appropriation of not more than 15 acre-feet of water shall be calculated as follows:

(A) Step one.

(i) Multiply the net irrigation requirement for the 50 percent chance rainfall for the county of origin, as specified in K.A.R. 5-5-12, times the maximum number of acres legally irrigated in any one calendar year during the perfection period. For vested rights, the acreage used shall be the maximum acreage legally irrigated in any one calendar year before June 28, 1945.

(ii) The calculation made in paragraph (d)(7)(A)(i) shall result in the maximum annual quantity of water that could be changed to another type of beneficial use if the entire water right were changed pursuant to K.A.R. 5-5-9(a)(1).

(B) Step two.

(i) Divide the annual quantity of water desired to be changed to the new beneficial use by the maximum annual quantity of water that could be changed if the entire water right were changed to the new use.

(ii) The calculation made in paragraph (d)(7)(B)(i) shall result in the percentage of the entire reduced water right that will be changed to the new use. The remaining percentage of the offsetting water right may be retained by the owner of the irrigation water right.

(C) Step three.

(i) Multiply the remaining percentage calculated in paragraph (d)(7)(B)(ii) times the total currently authorized quantity. The resulting product shall be the annual quantity of water that may be retained by the owner of the irrigation water right.

(ii) The portion of the authorized annual quantity of water not retained by the irrigator as described in paragraph (d)(7)(C)(i) shall be permanently reduced from the authorized annual quantity of the offsetting water right and used to offset the new appropriation.

(8) If the water right to be used as the offset

for the new appropriation is an existing water right authorized for non-irrigation use, the total net consumptive use of the offsetting water right after the change and the new appropriation shall not exceed the net consumptive use of the offsetting water right before the change.

(9) The place of use authorized by the offsetting water right for irrigation shall be reduced in proportion to the reduction in the maximum annual quantity of water as determined in paragraph (d)(7)(A)(ii). The directions specified in K.A.R. 5-5-11(b)(2)(B)(ii) shall be followed to determine the number of acres that may be retained.

(e) After the application has been approved pursuant to this regulation, no application to

change that water right shall be approved if that approval would authorize the water use to be diverted from any other point of diversion authorized when the application is filed or to be used on any other place of use authorized when the application for change is filed.

(f) An application approved as an exemption under this regulation shall not be leased or placed in a water bank so that the approved water use can be diverted at another location. (Authorized by K.S.A. 82a-706a and K.S.A. 2009 Supp. 82a-1028; implementing K.S.A. 82a-706, K.S.A. 82a-706a, K.S.A. 2009 Supp. 82a-711, and K.S.A. 2009 Supp. 82a-1028; effective Oct. 31, 2003; amended May 21, 2010.)